

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 001964

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, CU

SUBJECT: B.A. MFM - CUBA

FROM ROGERS

1. PLEASE ADVISE SILVEIRA THAT WE GATHER THAT ARGENTINA IS EXAMINING QUESTION OF CUBA AND THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

(A) GOA IS PERSUADED THAT THE B.A. MEETING MUST GO AS FAR AS IT CAN TO SOLVE THE CUBAN QUESTION. MINISTERS AT B.A. COULD AGREE THAT SANCTIONS PROVIDED IN THE 1964 OAS CUBAN RESOLUTION CAN BE LIFTED BY MAJORITY VOTE, AND ANNOUNCE THAT THE LEGAL STEPS TO THAT END WILL BE EFFECTED AT THE APRIL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN WASHINGTON.

(B) GOA POINTS OUT THAT ALL COUNTRIES NOW SUPPORT AMENDING THE RIO TREATY TO PERMIT SANCTIONS TO BE LIFTED BY MAJORITY VOTE. THUS, THEY SAY, THERE IS NO SOUND REASON NOT TO APPLY THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE TO THE ONE OUTSTANDING, AGGRAVATING CASE. THEY POINT OUT THAT IT IS FEASIBLE AND LEGALLY IMPECCABLE AT THE APRIL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FOREIGN MINISTERS (BRIEFLY CONVOKED AS A CONFIDENTIAL

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RIO TREATY MFM) TO APPROVE BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE AMENDMENT

OF THE 1964 CUBAN SANCTIONS RESOLUTION TO PERMIT
SANCTIONS IN THAT PARTICULAR CASE TO BE LIFTED BY A

MAJORITY OF PERMANENT COUNCIL. THE EXISTING MAJORITY OF
TWELVE, AT LEAST, COULD THEN CAST THE NECESSARY VOTES
TO LIFT THE SANCTIONS. (INTERESTINGLY, COLOMBIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO HAS PRIVATELY RAISED WITH US A
SIMILAR FORMULA, DIFFERING ONLY IN THE CONVOCATION AT
B.A. OF A BRIEF RIO TREATY MFM TO DELEGATE THE MATTER
TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR ACTION SHORTLY AFTER B.A.)

2. IF THE B.A. MEETING PRODUCED THIS RESULT IT WOULD BE
SIGNIFICANT -- BUT PERHAPS NOT QUITE ENOUGH FOR SOME
COUNTRIES, IN THE GOA VIEW. HENCE, GOA IS ALSO CONSIDERING
WHETHER TO SEEK FORMAL AND PERHAPS PUBLIC ASSURANCE
FROM CUBA AS TO GOOD BEHAVIOR. IF GOA GOT IT, CUBA
WOULD BE INVITED, PERHAPS FOR LAST DAY OF MFM. GOA
RECOGNIZES THAT IN THAT CASE ONE OR MORE OTHER COUNTRIES
MIGHT NOT ATTEND. IF CUBA REFUSED ASSURANCES, THEN GOA
WOULD USE THAT TO ANSWER CRITICISM AT HOME AND ABROAD
OF CUBALESS MEETING.

3. WE DO NOT THINK IT SEEMLY TO SOLICIT CUBAN ASSURANCES
AS A PRICE OF ADMISSION TO THE BUENOS AIRES MEETING,
PARTICULARLY IN THE WAKE OF QUITO AND ROA'S BEHAVIOR
AT LIMA. CUBA MIGHT REJECT THE EFFORT IN SUCH A WAY AS
TO AGGRAVATE SITUATION. BETTER A RESOLUTION OF THE OAS
SANCTIONS ISSUE FIRST AND ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF CUBAN
REINCORPORATION INTO INTER-AMERICAN FORA LATER. IN ANY
CASE, WE DO NOT FAVOR THE ATTENDANCE OF CUBA AT THE
B.A.-MFM.

4. WE ARE, HOWEVER, WILLING THAT THE GOA ARRANGE FOR THE
B.A.-MFM TO LAY THE BASIS FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE OAS
SANCTIONS ISSUE IN A WAY WHICH DOES NOT AFFECT OUR
RESPECTIVE BILATERAL POSITIONS TOWARD CUBA (WHICH AS FAR
AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED REMAINS UNCHANGED)
ALONG THE LINES SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH (B) ABOVE.

5. WE WOULD NOT PLAN TO COMMUNICATE THE VIEWS IN
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PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4 TO GOA UNTIL WE KNOW SILVEIRA'S
COMMENTS, WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BY THURSDAY. KISSINGER

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